

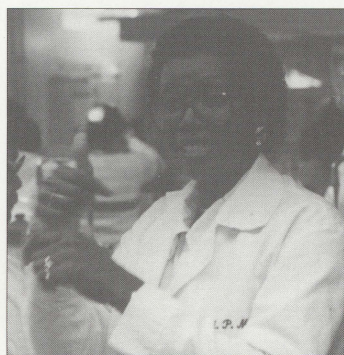


On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
Gallaudet University • 800 Florida Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002-3695

March 3, 1999
Vol. 29, No. 13

NIH program offers students learning, career opportunities

By Katherine DeLorenzo
Magazines and news broadcasts regularly report on exciting breakthroughs in biotechnology. Thanks to a program offered by the National Institutes



Ava Morrow, assistant professor in the Department of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, serves as faculty liaison for Gallaudet students participating in the Minority Faculty-Student Partnership Traineeships in Biotechnology at NIH.

Partnership Traineeships in Biotechnology program has made it possible for students traditionally underrepresented in science and health fields to participate in week-long courses providing them with hands-on laboratory experience, faculty mentors, and information about future research training and internships. Normally, two students from each represented institution participate in the courses.

This year marked Gallaudet's induction onto the list of universities and colleges participating in the NIH program. Gallaudet students who undertake the courses are under the direction of Ava Morrow, assistant professor in the Department of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, and Dr. Ann

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of Health, Gallaudet students now have yet another opportunity to be counted among the next wave of scientists in the field.

Begun in 1992, the Minority Faculty-Student



FROM LEFT: Joshua Malasheskie, Carolina Chavarria, and Deanna Cook participate in a biotechnology experiment in the NIH sponsored program.

Board of Trustees glimpses campus of tomorrow

By Todd Byrd
Like most universities across the nation, the times are a'changin' at Gallaudet. And on Kendall Green, numerous steps are being taken to meet the learning needs of a student body that in 20 years will be quite different from what it is today.

The University's Board of Trustees, which met on campus February 3-5, got a glimpse of the future through events that followed a central theme of the Gallaudet of tomorrow.

A prime example of this focus was a roundtable discussion between board members, administrators, faculty, teachers, and staff that centered on Gallaudet's Communication Statement—how it can be implemented more quickly and how Gallaudet can live up to its promise of barrier-free communication.

The roundtable discussion was first announced in an open letter that President I. King Jordan sent to the campus community in December addressing three realities shaping the University's future: increased accessibility for deaf and hard of hearing people,

the rapid growth of technology, and demographic shifts in the country's deaf and hard of hearing population.

Participants in the discussion were given two questions to ponder: "Gallaudet is committed to creating a visual learning environment. In terms of technology, what is your vision of a dream classroom? Dormitory room? Student union? General campus environment?" And, "How do you define 'barrier free' communication at Gallaudet?"

The ideas generated at the roundtable discussion will be reviewed by a campus-wide implementation team that is charged with examining Gallaudet's entire range of signing and evaluation methods.

Looking toward the next generation of Gallaudet students, Dr. Thomas Allen, acting dean of the Graduate School and Research, presented a talk entitled "Demography, Diversity, and Destiny" at a February 4 Board of Trustees luncheon. Allen's presentation focused on recent changes in the population of deaf and hard of hearing youth, based

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Dr. Judy Harkins demonstrates accessibility features of the Microsoft Cordless Phone/PC Call Manager to President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore at a White House event January 13. Looking on are Dr. Katherine Seelman, director of the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research, and Dr. Gregg Vanderheiden of the Trace Center at the University of Wisconsin. Harkins was invited to demonstrate several examples of accessible design in new telecommunications products prior to a ceremony in which the president announced new budget initiatives on assistive technology and employment of people with disabilities.

Gallaudet among eight sites testing Video Relay Interpreting

By Todd Byrd

Imagine making a relay call without having to use a TTY. For many deaf and hard of hearing callers, if only the dialogue could be signed, it would be so fast and easy!

Deaf and hard of hearing Maryland residents who prefer to communicate in sign language may soon be able to do so through the Maryland Relay if the state gives the thumbs up to new video technology called Video Relay Interpreting (VRI) that is being tested at eight area sites, including Gallaudet.

Instead of a TTY, VRI employs a video screen—either a computer with video conferencing capabilities or a video phone. Upon dialing the relay service number, the caller connects with an operator—a professional sign language interpreter—whose image appears on the screen. Then the caller signs a message to the operator, and the other party's reply is signed back to the caller.

The Maryland Video Relay Interpreting Trial, which began January 19 and ends July 16, seeks input from deaf callers who can make free calls anywhere they choose (as long as English and ASL are used). They are then asked to fill out a questionnaire evaluating the service.

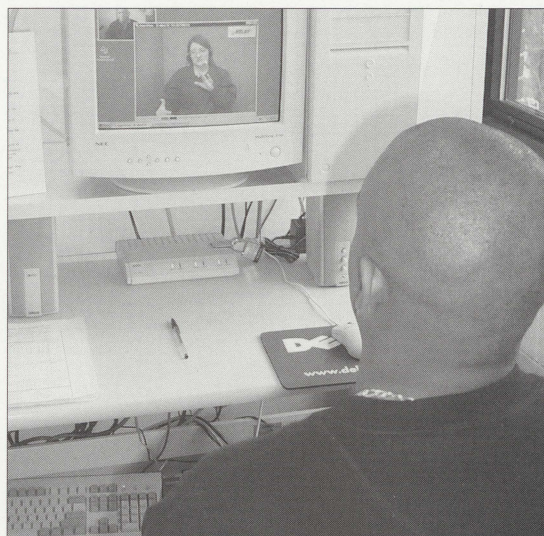
Gallaudet has two VRI demonstration stations, both located in Room 328 of Ely Center. The University was chosen as

a site because many of its students and employees are Maryland residents. Gallaudet's participation is made possible through a collaborative research effort of its Technology Assessment Program (TAP)/Department of Communication Arts and the University of Arkansas' Research and Training Center (where Dr. Glenn Anderson, chair of the University's Board of Trustees, is the director of training).

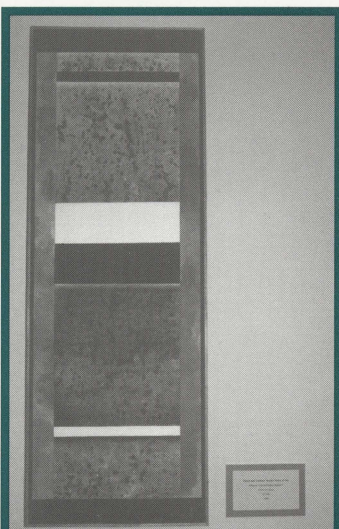
The benefits of VRI, according to TAP Director Judy Harkins, are that it is faster for both relay users than using TTY relay and it provides a more natural form of communication. Plus, she added, callers can see the facial expression of the interpreter, which reflects the mood of the other party.

There are also drawbacks: Sometimes the image is fuzzy and the operator's movements may appear less fluid than normal, depending on various technical components such as the speed of data transmission. The quality of expressive and recep-

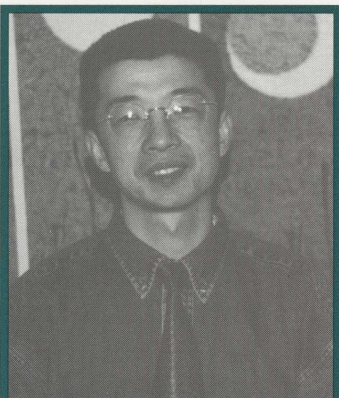
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Student assistant Howard Johnson makes a call at one of Gallaudet's Video Relay Interpreting demonstration stations in Ely Center, Room 328.



On January 28, the "Gallaudet Connections" art series featured a lecture by Art Department professor Paul Setzer and a showing of six of his paintings, one of which is pictured here.



Zhou Fang, a 1998 graduate who is the Web designer for the Office of Enrollment Services, gave a slide presentation and lecture about his artwork as part of "Gallaudet Connections" on February 11.



ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Dear Aunt Sophie,

Impressed as I have been by the Field House Annex structure, I have been equally impressed by the mountain of earth created next to it. Many people I've spoken to share my wish that the mountain be kept as a permanent natural feature of the Gallaudet landscape. Sod could be placed on it. Perhaps a boulder could be rolled up on top. If this suggestion were taken seriously (as I think it should), we could have a "Name the Mountain" contest. Some possible names: "Gallyloaf Mountain," or "Mount Sisyphus." What do you think, Aunt Sophie?

Impressed Mountaineer in HMB

Dear Mountaineer,

Your suggestion appeals mightily to Auntie's penchant for things surreal. Not only can she envision "Mount Gallyloaf" as you describe it, but her hyperactive imagination conjures up other possibilities as well.

Why not blanket our peak with snow and host an annual luge competition?

We might even convert our motley mound into an exquisite Zen garden complete with a waterfall, plus a boulder or two as you suggest. The possibilities are limitless.

Alas, barring divine intervention (or an act of Congress), none of these options—including your modest recommendation—shall come to pass. It seems the pile of dirt in question has been spoken for. According to my reliable source, most will be used to fill in, level off, and otherwise make smooth all manner of campus hollows and craters.

One wonders, however, if a groundswell of public support for your idea might convince the "dirt disposal department" to reconsider. What say you, readers?

If you have a burning question that you would like to ask Aunt Sophie, e-mail her at public_relations@gallaudet.edu. Be sure you say your question is for Aunt Sophie.

Board takes action on personnel policies

At its February 5, the Board of Trustees approved a revision to the Probationary Period policy (4.31) changing the length of the staff probationary period from three to six months.

The extended probationary period, suggested during the Administration and Business program review, provides supervisory personnel with more time to work with new employees, observe their performance, and determine their suitability for the position.

The change in the probationary period affects several other policies:

The Annual Leave policy (4.11) previously stated that employees who separate during their probationary period are not reimbursed for unused annual leave. This statement has been removed.


The severance pay and annual leave payoff sections of the Staff Layoff policy (4.33) have been revised to reflect the changes in the Probationary Period and Annual Leave policies.

Although no wording changes were needed in the Educational Assistance and Tuition Waiver policies, the change in the probationary period does affect the waiting period before a new staff employee can take advantage of these benefits. Similarly, new

employees will be required to wait six months before being eligible for a Floating Day (policy 4.18), for a Sick Leave Loan (policy 4.20), and for the provisions of the Dispute Resolution policy (4.41).

Another recommendation from the Administration and Business program review was to decentralize the hiring process. The Staff Employment policy (4.02) has been completely rewritten. The new policy shifts responsibility for hiring staff employees from the Personnel Office to the hiring department. The Personnel Office will continue to serve as the authoritative source for all matters related to staff employment and will provide oversight and consultation during the hiring process. The Personnel Office will manage the entire staff employment process if requested.

The policy on Copyrights, Patents, and Royalties (1.09) was also revised. Part I is a new section pertaining to works produced outside of Gallaudet. Part II of the policy has been edited to update titles, etc., and to reflect appropriate language in the EDA.

Copies of the policies are being distributed to budget unit heads. Questions regarding policies should be directed to the Personnel Office. 

Stu • dent • sau • rus

(stoo • dant • soar • us) n. 1. a special breed of inquisitive men and women who Gallaudet recruits, retains, and educates. 2. pizza-eaters.

'Right stuff' makes grad student agency's first deaf executive director

By Todd Byrd

If sheer enthusiasm alone can gauge the potential for success in a demanding job, Berks County, Pa., has landed a winner in Robert Lenderman.

Lenderman was recently named the first deaf executive director of the Berks County Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services in its 32-year history. And the 46-year-old graduate student in Gallaudet's Department of Administration and Supervision is intent on showing that the agency's board of directors made the right choice by hiring him.

Serving as an advocate for the deaf community is a primary

responsibility in Lenderman's new job. He spends much of his time giving talks to civic and professional groups, enlightening them about deaf people and how they can be a vital part of the work force and the social fabric of the community.


Lenderman said that he has received a warm welcome from the 35,000 people with hearing loss in Berks County's service area, and he feels that his alma mater is part of the reason. "The name of Gallaudet University and its first deaf president, Dr. I. King Jordan, still have an impact on the deaf community in Berks County," said Lenderman.

Already Lenderman has set goals of increasing the eight-member staff of the agency to 15—including five interpreters instead of the two people who are presently employed—within a year. He admits that perhaps his energy and ambitious goals may have taken other agency officials somewhat off guard. "It's a small town," Lenderman said of Reading, where the agency is based. "They keep reminding me that it's not Washington, D.C.!"

Lenderman earned his undergraduate degree from Regents College in Albany, N.Y. He decided to continue his education at Gallaudet after receiving a highly favorable impression about the University's Administration and Supervision Program through talks with Dr. William Marshall, chair of the department, and faculty members Dr. Francis Duffy and Dr. Vera Follain-Grisell.

The program, said Lenderman, "has equipped me professionally for this leadership position." Duffy, Lenderman's advisor, said of him: "One of Bob's significant character traits is his unbridled optimism and energy. He is eager to learn, he unravels complex ideas to uncover their meaning, he is enthusiastic about applying what he learns ... These are not only the hallmarks of a successful graduate student, but also those of a successful leader."

Lenderman lives in a rented room in Reading during the week and returns home to Springfield, Va., on weekends to be with his wife, Lois Lehman, a 1976 Gallaudet alumnae, who works as an illustrator for the Pentagon. Coming home also allows him to attend Saturday classes so that he can graduate by May 2000.

But Lenderman has no complaints about the long commute and balancing a new job with graduate studies. "It's challenging," he said, "but I love every minute of it." 

Check out 'On the Green's' Web version

Many of the articles and photographs that appear in each week's issue of *On the Green* can also be read in *On the Green's* Web version, the online version of *Gallaudet's* faculty/staff newsletter. *On the Green's* Web version can be accessed through the University's homepage.

ON THE GREEN

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800 Florida Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002-3695

Published weekly for the staff and faculty of Gallaudet University by the Office of Public Relations.

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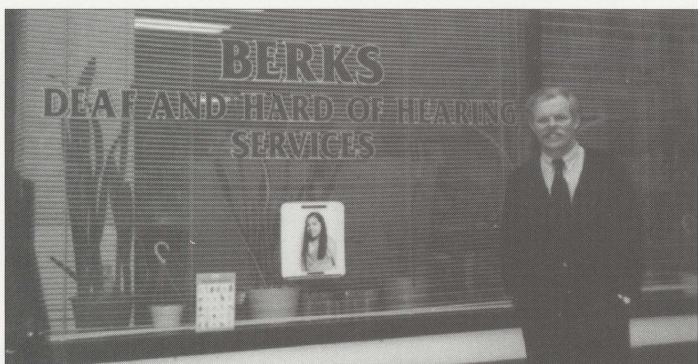
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Graphic Design & Production

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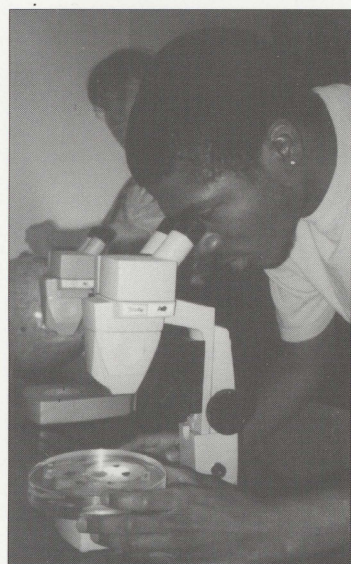
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Robert Lenderman stands outside the agency offices of his new job.

PCNMP HAPPENINGS

Moon rocks land at MSSD



MSSD student Antoine Robinson examines moon rocks under a microscope.

By Susan Flanigan and
Cathy Valcourt

No, the moon is not made out of green cheese—but what is the surface of the moon really like?

Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD) seniors recently had the rare opportunity to investigate the moon's composition when David Fair, manager of NASA's Outreach Visitor's Center, brought actual samples of moon rocks from the Apollo missions and gave the students an introductory talk about moon rocks and craters.

Over 400 pounds of moon rocks were brought back on Apollo missions 11, 12, 14, 15, 16,



On January 22, Gallaudet Interpreting Service hosted an all-day workshop for 50 students and interpreters. Due to the marked increase in deaf students participating in student teaching, the number of interpreters has risen correspondingly. "What are the ways that the deaf student teacher and the interpreter can work together to determine which information needs to be interpreted and which does not? How does the interpreter convey information about noise level in a classroom so that the student teacher can provide effective classroom control?" asked workshop leader Phyllis Rogers of GIS. "These are just two of many issues that needed to be addressed."

and 17. The rocks are kept in a laboratory in Houston, Texas. Small samples of lunar rocks and soils embedded in acrylic disks are made available for a short-term loan to qualified teachers.


The students used microscopes to view small moon rock samples. "It was interesting to see one for myself and think that the rocks were from thousands of miles away in space and brought to us here," said student Tyler Milford.

MSSD earth systems science teacher Mary Ellsworth and the students also performed a crater-making experiment. The students dropped various size balls into pans of flour overlaid with dry chocolate pudding mix to see how the impact of projectiles creates craters. The materials represented lava overlying the moon's powdery surface. From their experiment, the students determined how the formation of craters is influenced by speed; size, mass, shape; composition of the surface; angle of impact; and composition of the projectile.

"I learned a lot from the presentation," said student Selina English. "I learned the moon rocks are priceless. The microscope and the experiment of seeing 'craters' made with marbles and a golf ball enthralled me."

completed in the fall and a decision should be made before the end of the year on whether there is sufficient interest to warrant implementation of the service. Mann manages the VRI project for Maryland's Department of Budget Management, which oversees the Maryland Relay through a contract between the state and Sprint.

Mann acknowledged that the costs of the system could be prohibitive for many users—at least for the short term until an expected drop in equipment and service prices occur. To make the service more feasible, he said that the primary venue for VRI service would be public centers where, like TTY relay calls, customers would not be charged for local service.

Mann emphasized that VRI will not replace the TTY relay system, only offer users a choice in how to make calls. 

Video Relay tested

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tive communication are being assessed by the Gallaudet VRI trial through the participants' questionnaires.

Then, there is the matter of cost. For private service, users would have to purchase equipment and have ISDN service installed. Products that use "plain old telephone service" are not currently being tested by Maryland Relay, said Dr. Harkins.

How the pros and cons of the system balance out, said Harkins, is the goal of the field trial. She added that the state is eager to get consumer input about the system. "I want to encourage people to come try it and make their own judgments about it," she said.

Willis Mann, program manager for the Telecommunications Access of Maryland (TAM) program, said that data analysis from the field trials is expected to be

Sports Roundup

By Steve Feit

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team wrapped up the regular season Capital Athletic Conference title with a 100-84 win at York. The win ensured the Bison of home court advantage throughout the CAC Tournament. It is the first CAC title in team history. Juniors Ronda Jo Miller and Touria Ouahid have been at the center of the team's success, averaging 26.5 and 17.8 points per game, respectively. Sophomore Ronda Johnson had a career high 35 points in the York game. After starting the season unranked, the Bison have climbed to No. 2 in the Atlantic Region.

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team said farewell to senior Darnell Woods, who has led the squad in scoring in each of the last two years. After a warm ceremony honoring Woods before Gallaudet's final home game, the energized Bison went out and beat St. Mary's 81-68 for their first conference win of the season.

Swimming

Gallaudet finished eighth at the CAC Swimming Championships. All of the Bison's points came on relays. Senior Yvonne de Vries had the best season of her career, establishing herself as a long distance threat. She won dual meet races at four different distances throughout the

season. Meghan Cleary also progressed nicely during the year, capping the season with a victory in the 200-yard individual medley in the season's final dual meet.

Wrestling

The wrestling team has shown gutsy competitiveness, participating in several local meets. Sophomore Ivan Jarama (125 lbs.) leads the team in victories, including a dramatic pin against an opponent from Western Maryland. Junior Ericka Brown became the first woman to wrestle for Gallaudet, appearing in a meet against Centenary.

(Steve Feit is sports information director in Gallaudet's Department of Athletics.)



WHAT'S HAPPENING... AND WHEN

(Note: for more information about University athletic events, call the Athletics Department at x5603; for MSSD athletic events, call x5361.)

March 3-7—"Turn A Page" book display features selections from Dr. Leonard Kelly, research scientist, Gallaudet Research Institute, first floor lobby, Library

March 5—Open House for undergraduate and graduate students, all-day program which includes tours, information sessions, and panels. For more information, contact Graduate.School@gallaudet.edu (graduate students) or Visitors.Center@gallaudet.edu (undergraduate students)

March 7—Baseball vs. Salisbury State (Md.), 12:30 p.m. (Home)

March 8—Undergraduate students: All mid-term grades due from faculty no later than 4:30 p.m.; last day to change incomplete grades from previous semester;

March 8-9—Course registration for 1999 summer school for currently enrolled students

March 10—Baseball at Catholic University, 3 p.m. (Away); Softball at Salisbury State (Md.), 2:45 p.m.

(Away)

Graduate students: course registration for 1999 summer school for currently enrolled students

March 11—Softball at Shenandoah, Time: TBA (Away)

March 12—ASL Interaction Lunch, 12-1 p.m., Merrill Learning Center, Room US-11, for more information, contact marti.lagrotteria@gallaudet.edu or phone x5778; Baseball vs. Marywood (Pa.), 3:30 p.m. (Home)

March 13—Softball vs. Marywood (Pa.), noon (Home)

March 15-19—Spring Break

Community Events:

March 6—Public Playhouse: Community Open House, sign-interpreted, free performances and more, 12-3 p.m., 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, Md., (301) 277-1710 (voice), (301) 277-0312 (TTY)

March 13—National Aquarium in Baltimore's Deaf Awareness Day, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., ASL interpreters present at all public presentations, (410) 576-3845 (voice), (410) 625-0720 (TTY)

Upcoming events

• **The Student Body Government** will be hosting ASLFEST '99 from 10 a.m. - 2 a.m. on March 28. The event will include entertainment, exhibits, games, skits, and informational booths. If you are interested in reserving a booth, send an e-mail to aslfest99@aol.com. Admission is \$15 for non-students, \$10 for students with I.D., and free for children 12 and under. For more information, visit the ASLFEST '99 website at: www.gallaudet.edu/~sbgweb/aslfest.html

• **The Diversity Council**, under the auspices of the Office of Diversity and Community Relations, announces a Multicultural Festival on April 2.

The goal of the event is to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of our community through arts and crafts, demonstrations, storytelling, and more. For more information, contact Dr. Janice Mitchell at jdmitchell@gallua.gallaudet.edu or Bernie Palmer at bernie.palmer@gallaudet.edu.

• **The English Language Institute (ELI)** is hosting a fundraising banquet on April 3 for the Mima Bravo and Mi-Sang Lee Scholarship funds. The banquet will be held at the Lei Garden restaurant in D.C.'s Chinatown. For ticket information, contact the ELI Office at x5815 or e-mail timothy.anderson@gallaudet.edu.

Students participate in NIH program

continued from page 1

Davidson-Powell, department chair. "We were impressed with the curriculum and equipment at NIH," said Morrow, who participated in the program as a Ph.D. student at Howard University in 1996 and serves as faculty liaison to the program. This year's course was titled "Recombinant DNA Methodology and Special Topics in Biotechnology."

Students selected to represent Gallaudet were Josh

Malasheskie, a recent graduate who is working toward a master's degree in forensic science at George Washington University, and Deanna Cook and Carolina Chavarria, both biology majors. Students in the course learned about new trends in gene cloning, isolation and amplification of DNA, and other topics related to molecular biology.

"When we are working in the [Gallaudet] lab, students ask questions and interact with their classmates ... because they know each other," said Morrow, who teaches molecular biology. "While at NIH, our students meet new

classmates from all over the country."

Cook, who plans to pursue a doctorate in pathology after graduation, agreed. "It was nice to meet students from universities all over the United States," she said.

In addition to being an invaluable learning experience, the NIH course provides visiting sponsors with the chance to recruit students for internships and potential science careers, said Morrow. For example, the Food and Drug Administration has offered students the chance to apply for positions in its Biotechnology Traineeship Program this summer.

"It was very challenging, but I can build on what I have learned at NIH" to advance professionally, said Cook, who described the networking offered by her NIH studies as one of its most important benefits.

The mother of two children, Cook was reluctant to apply for internships that would require her to spend too much time away from her children. With the NIH experience on her resume, she is now considering an internship at Duke University, which offered her childcare and housing assistance. "We have made an impact on people who didn't realize all the things that deaf people can do," she said. **G**

Board of Trustees

continued from page 1

on data from the Gallaudet Research Institute's Annual Survey of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children and Youth.

As this population becomes the pool from which future Gallaudet students will be selected, these changes are important to study, said Allen, particularly given the small size of the population and the increase in competition from other universities.

Allen singled out three characteristics—ethnicity, school attendance patterns, and cochlear implants—that Gallaudet must take into consideration in order to continue to thrive into the next century.

It is clear, said Allen, that ethnic distribution among deaf youth is following national trends, with Hispanic students comprising a growing segment of the population. Regarding school attendance, he reported that the percentage of students in special residential and day programs has stabilized at about 30 percent, but he cautioned about over interpreting this result, given the correlation of school placement decisions with other demographic factors. The data on cochlear implants was perhaps the most dramatic. Rates of implanting among deaf youth under age eight have doubled in the last five years, and there are indications that it will continue to grow rapidly.

Campus facilities must also keep pace with the times. During their visit, board members saw preliminary plans unveiled for two projects—the renovation of Ely Center and the proposed Student Academic Center to replace Hughes Gym.

An early conceptual drawing of

the academic center by the architectural and engineering firm of Einhorn Yaffee Prescott that was presented to the board depicted a 48,000 square foot building, at an estimated cost of \$10 million, that would include the School of Undergraduate Studies, a multimedia center, 10 master classrooms, and technical support services.

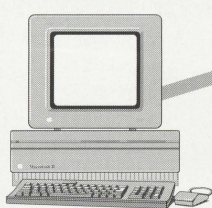
The estimated \$2 million to \$3 million renovation to Ely Center would involve approximately 56,000 square feet of the building. Improvements would include major upgrades—or in some cases relocations to improve the quality of space—to services such as the Post Office, the Recreation Center, The Abbey, the Food Court, the Bookstore, the Multipurpose Room, and the commons. The building would also have a Cyber Cafe—a popular gathering place at many colleges and universities today that combines a coffee bar and Internet access center.

The University's goal is to break ground for the projects in May 2000 and have both completed by July 2002 in time for Deaf Way II. A building subcommittee, made up of representatives from the faculty, student body, and the administration, is presently meeting to give input to the architects on the final design plans for the two projects.

On a lighter note, 10 board members were treated to another glimpse into the future on February 3—the women's basketball team's promising bid to get into the NCAA Division III National Tournament—when it defeated Mary Washington College of Fredericksburg, Va., 89-69. (As of February 23, the women's team's record stood at 21 wins and four losses.) **G**



President I. King Jordan serves as the chair of the Executive Committee for the Consortium of Universities of the Metropolitan Washington Area, which comprises the presidents of 12 area universities. Dr. Jordan (front row, center) is pictured with six of the presidents (left to right): (front row) University of the District of Columbia President Nimmons, American University President Ladner, (back row) Catholic University President O'Connell, Trinity College President McGuire, George Washington University President Trachtenberg, and Marymount University President Sister Gallagher.



TECH TIPS

PDF: Portable Document Format or Pretty Darn Fun?

By Greg Ritter



Q: What is a PDF file?

A: Portable Document Format (PDF) is a file format created by Adobe, a software company that makes desktop publishing and graphics software. Adobe created PDF as a universal format, which means a PDF file will appear the same on every kind of computer.

A document converted to PDF retains all the original fonts, graphics, formatting, and colors, no matter what computer is used to open the file. For example, companies and organizations often convert documentation, manuals, and forms to a PDF file and put the files on the World Wide Web.

Anyone can read and print these PDF files, and the computer printout looks exactly like the original paper version.

Q: How do I open and read a PDF file?

A: There is a catch. To open, read, or print a PDF file you need software called Adobe Acrobat Reader. The good news is that Acrobat Reader is free for everyone and available for all kinds of computers.

If your office computer was

purchased in the last year or so, that computer should have Acrobat Reader installed as part of the Gallaudet Standard Software. If you have an older computer in your office or want to install Acrobat Reader on your home computer, you need to visit the Adobe Acrobat Reader web site

(<http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>) and download the software.

Q: How do I create a PDF file?

A: Suppose you created a complex document with charts and tables, and you need to distribute it to colleagues around the country. You created it with Microsoft Word on your Windows NT computer, but maybe some colleagues are using WordPerfect on a Macintosh or WordPro on Windows 3.1. By converting your Microsoft Word document to a PDF file, you can be sure everyone can read it using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader—and none of your tables or charts will be messed up.

To convert the file you need to use software called Adobe Acrobat Exchange. You have to buy Acrobat Exchange. However,

it is available in Gallaudet's open computer labs (Merrill Learning Center LE60, Benson Hall Lab, and Hall Memorial Building W121). Also, Learning Technologies gave copies of Adobe Acrobat Exchange to all deans so faculty and staff in their college or school would have access to that software.

Special Bonus PDF Tip

You haven't forgotten about what's coming up on April 15, right? Don't bother running around town looking for all the different tax forms and publications at the Post Office or the library. The IRS has converted all the tax forms and publications to PDF files and put them on the World Wide Web. Visit the IRS Forms and Publications Web site: (http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/forms_pubs), grab the PDF version of your 1040, and print it out. Then forget about it until about 11:30 p.m. on April 15.

(Do you have a technology-related question you want answered in a future Tech Tip column? E-mail your questions to learntech.office@gallaudet.edu.) **G**

New President's Fellowship Program to address need for deaf faculty in higher education

By Katherine DeLorenzo
As part of an ongoing effort by Gallaudet to increase the number of qualified deaf professors, the University has begun the process of implementing the Gallaudet University President's Fellowship Program, slated to begin this fall.

Announced during the 1998 Deaf President Now Tenth Anniversary celebration, the Fellows Program is intended to recruit and support deaf and hard of hearing graduate students pursuing full-time study toward doctorate or terminal degrees who aspire to a teaching and research career.

Under the auspices of the Fellows Selection and Review Committee, five fellows each year receive tuition support of up to \$12,000, an annual stipend between \$14,000 and \$24,000, and additional funding support for research, library privileges, and

travel support. Each fellow serves as a teaching assistant in his or her academic discipline, and teaches up to two courses per year.

Serving on the selection committee are representatives from each college of the University, a representative from faculty governance, one dean, and a representative from the Graduate School. The committee will begin reviewing applications in mid-April and make final selections by June 1. Regular employees of the University are not eligible, and future employment of fellows at the University is not guaranteed.

Satisfactory academic progress toward the degree and teaching performance are requisites for reappointment. Each fellow participates in New Faculty Orientation the first semester of appointment, and attends faculty development mentoring activities. **G**